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DARK UNITED MEDIA  
PRESENTS

DECEMBER 2023  
ISSUE # 4



Extreme Underground Metal Newsletter







# Gut Slitter

NEWSLETTER

Here we are again... It's been a while since our last issue of *Gutslitter*, I went through a very hard and challenging process in my life; my wife lost her battle with cancer and sadly passed away...; I had to adapt to my new life without her and it took me a few months to partially recover and continue with what I do; but yeah, here we go again! I want to thanks everyone that sent messages of condolences and support, they actually helped me a lot. Thanks!!!

To start off this issue we're going to inform you about all the good things that has been happening with **DUM**.

We have some new releases out and new bands added to our roster; this is the last issue of 2023 of *Gutslitter*, we have been planning some good things and 2024 will be the year of big changes! Hope you enjoy this issue and see you next year on issue #5 with a huge upgrade and surprise! Stay Brutal!

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## THE DISTURBING TRUTH

Half of legendary Swedish death metal band **Grave** has quit and all the band's live shows have been put on hold. Bassist *Tobias Christiansson* and guitarist *Mika Lagrén* have departed **Grave** on good terms, leaving frontman *Ola Lindgren* and drummer *Tomas Lagrén* as the only members of the group.

Bassist *Stefano Franceschini* has parted ways with his bandmates in **Aborted** to pursue his PhD.

**Aborted** states they'll carry on as a four-piece with a backing track for bass, and that *Franceschini's* final effort with them will be their upcoming new record.

**Skeletal Remains** is celebrating the release of their new record *Fragments Of The Ageless* on March 8 next year with four shows. The shows will feature **Morta Skuld** playing a

*Dying Remains* set and **Oxygen Destroyer**, as well as a handful of special guests on two of the dates. **The Absence** – the band featuring vocalist *Jamie Stewart*, guitarist *Taylor Nordberg* (**Deicide**, **Inhuman Condition**),

and drummer *Jeramie Kling* (ex-**Venom Inc.**, **Inhuman Condition**) – is back with a brand new self-titled record due out March 29, and a very melodic new single dubbed "The Silent Eye" streaming right now.

**Forbidden** recently reunited for the first time since 2012 with the lineup of classic guitarist *Craig Locicero* and bassist *Matt Camacho*, alongside guitarist *Steve Smyth* (ex-**Testament**, ex-**Nevermore**),

drummer *Chris Kontos* (ex-**Machine Head**), and vocalist *Norman Skinner*.

**Gruesome** – the band featuring vocalist and guitarist *Matt Harvey*

*Left To Die*, etc.), guitarist *Daniel Gonzalez* (**Possessed**),

bassist *Robin Mazen* (**Castrator**, **Derkéta**), and drummer *Gus Ríos* (**Left To Die**, **Living Monstrosity**) – is working on their first new album since 2018's *Twisted Prayers*.

### BANDS

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WRITTEN IN BLOOD  
HAILS FROM THE NETHERLANDS  
THEY PLAY A DEVASTATING MIX OF  
MELODIC DEATH METAL WITH SOME BLACK METAL INFLUENCES  
CREATING A MENACING BLEND OF SERIOUS AND  
GENIUS BRUTALITY. FORMER GOD DETHRONED BASSIST  
BERT "BEEF" HOVING IS THE FRONTMAN AND HE IS HERE TO SPEAK UP



EP: What's up Bert, how are you doing brother; to start this interview, give us a brief story of the band please...

BH: Hi Ed, all good here. Hope you are good as well. The story will be short because we started the band end of 2019. After being not very active music wise for a long time, I found it time to start a new band. This plan was already in my head for a couple of years, but I kept pushing it for ward for no good reasons actually. At a certain point, it was enough and I started to make some calls to people with whom I had been playing in a band before. They agreed right away. So, when we just had a few rehearsals and came up with the band name, this covid19 pandemic struck the earth. So this gave me enough time to work on songs.

EP: Why did you name the band **Written In Blood**? Does this moniker have any particular meaning or reason for you?

BH: I had a few names in my head before I started the band. Strange enough, they all had the word blood in it. **Written in Blood** stands for all atrocities that Christianity did since it was introduced in Europe in the early middle ages. I myself am very interested in pagan times before this idiotic religion came to us. Although I'm not religious, I find paganism a lot sexier with a pantheon of Gods instead of this serial killer that sits on a cloud in the sky with his crucified son telling us what we can't do.

EP: How would you describe a live performance of WIB?

BH: Our performance is a pretty straight forward death metal show. Although we are working on a way to glue the set together a bit with some intro/outro's and light effects. It needs a bit of time to get that going. And in some clubs we play, are almost no facilities as it comes to stage lighting and so

EP: Being a former member and composer for **God Dethroned**, did you find it easy to write material for WIB that didn't resemble any previous **God Dethroned** material?

BH: Actually, I was not writing songs within my mind to not make it sound like, or to make it sound like **God Dethroned** at all. I went in there straight forward and wrote some riffs and songs that sounded good to me. I got some feedback during one of our first shows that it sounded like **God Dethroned**. But probably that is

because Henri's voice and mind are pretty similar.

The music I wrote for **Written in Blood** is less complex than **God Dethroned**. Maybe there is one similarity, and that is song structure. I like our songs to have a good structure and that is something **God Dethroned** also have in their songs.

EP: Have you guys been touring?

BH: Nope. Unfortunately until now not. But of course we are working on this. The whole scene changed a bit after this covid pandemic and its not very easy as a small band to end up on a tour. But the plans are there.

EP: How has been the feedback from the metal community to your self titled debut album?

BH: The reactions have been very good. In the first place we got many good reviews of the album in the international media. On average we scored 8 out of 10 points, which is a lot higher than what I ever did in school when I was younger, hahaha. And the audience is giving also good reactions during a live show. Especially in Germany we seem to score well.



EP: We are actually reissuing your album on **Dark United Media** later this year, I think it is a great powerful album. Any plans to release any new material soon? Are you interested in continuing working with us on **DUM**?

BH: Thanks for the compliment. And thanks for reissuing the album in the US. The first new thing is a **Kreator** cover that will be on **Agents of Brutality** released by you. The recordings are almost done for this song. For the rest we are busy writing new material for a next album. There are about 8 songs finished in a rough way, but the plan is to write at least 4 more songs so we have something to choose from. My first plan was to do a release end of this year, but that plan was a bit too ambitious. And of course I'm interested in working together in the future.

EP: Are you currently involved in any other band or project besides **WIB**?

BH: No. At the moment only Jeffrey our guitarist is playing in an other band, called **Icons of brutality**. I have some plans for a project but I dont know where to find the time.

EP: What are the plans in 2024 for **WIB**?

BH: Our main goal is to release a new album in 2024. And hopefully in the first half of the year. For the rest we are working to get more shows in the next festival season. But for this we need to release at least a few new songs. To be continued!

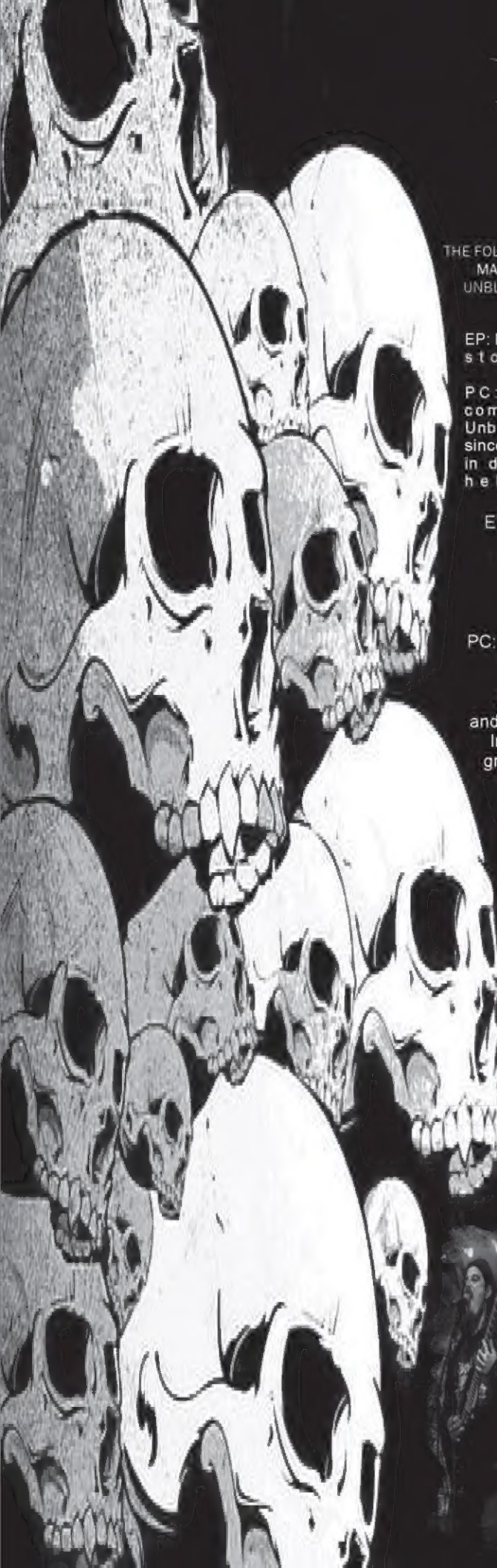
EP: Final closing comments... Thanks Bert for your time! Keep it brutal! m/

BH: Ed, thanks for the interview. We keep working on shows and hopefully we can enter the US for a couple of shows in the near future. Would be great to play again in your country and meet people at live shows. Cheers and see you all!!

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THE FOLLOWING IS AN BRIEF CHAT I HAD WITH MY BUDDY AND  
MASTERMIND BEHIND UNBLESSSED, **PAUL CALLAHAN**  
UNBLESSSED IS A DARK AND BRUTAL DEATH-BLACK BAND  
HAILING FROM **CHILE**.

EP: Please introduce yourself to the readers with a brief  
story of your musical resume

PC: Well, I'm Paul Callahan, leader,  
composser, guitarist and vocalist from  
Unblessed, Chile. I'm into death metal scene  
since 1994 and I have a long career involved  
in devil's music. As musician and as a banger  
hello to all readers

EP: During your career with Unblessed you had  
visited many countries and played for many  
different crowds. Of all the shows you played  
which one is that "one-show" you'll always  
remember and why?

PC: I think Sinfest metal festival, we've played on  
Malta, in a jail at Paola city with big bands as  
Carach Angren, Necronomicon and Hecate  
Enthroned to name a few so was a great night  
and a great show, London with Avulsed and Dave  
Ingram's band called Calm Before Dawn was a  
great night too. They knew all about Unblessed,  
Dave Rotten from Xtreme Music Recs they  
where our distro on Europe and i never knew.  
So was a big and nice surprise for me, great  
nights too. Always our shows are very special  
but i will never forget those.

EP: How would you describe Unblessed's music  
in one short paragraph?

PC: THE REAL DEATH BLACK METAL ARTS.  
TRUE MUSIC FROM THE FURY INSIDE.

EP: In all these years of being an active musician  
playing with Unblessed, what would you say has  
been your biggest achievement to date?

PC: I thought a lot of achievemnets but I am always  
focused in discography, Tryin to write new riffs.  
Lyrics. Qlbums. Videos and one thing takes to  
another achievement and viceversa. Tours, shows,  
contracts, rehearsal times, or recording times. I  
wrote a book some days ago. Anyway I always  
trying to give the best of me and the rest of the  
band too. Unblessed is always working. No matter  
whatever happens.

EP: Tell us a little more about the double  
live CD you just released...

PC: Well is just A live compilation with some  
old shows, is a passage from our entire  
discography and the best of us and some  
bonus tracks too. We have a very delayed  
album so ii just want to make smething for  
our fans during this last 2 fucking years. I  
said fucking years because me and the  
band are living a literally nightmare.  
Deads of very closer parents, poorness,  
hard times, some troubles with the law,  
covid. Postponed tours. Anyway it bad luck  
times are ending for me and sirely this  
2024 we will strike back with all the force,  
renewed and reloaded energies cuz we  
need to kick some asses, make tours,  
play alive and our new stuff will be out too.

EP: So you are now signed to Dark United  
Media and getting things set-up for your  
new album due for early-mid 2024 entitled  
"Precipicio". Can you tell us more about this  
new album? What can the fans expect from  
this new release?

PC: Is the best I wrote until now is the  
seventh full lenght at now so we achieve the  
mature and a lot of experience thru years and  
you can see it in every songs and details are  
made carefully in all aspects of this recording.  
Years aren't in vane. We grew old definetly and  
in this work you can aprecciate it. We decided  
to work with Andy La Rocque for mix and  
mastering this album at softonic studios, so  
we re very exited and expecting the results of  
this new work and obviously to work with the  
new label, sign and be announced soon. Now  
we're working on recording fretless bass  
sessions with the new member Rodrigo  
Duran and surely will be a plus on this new  
album And attractive sound for it. Lyrics are  
raw and aggressive as hell.

EP: Changing a little the subject but not quite;  
I know you just published a book. Tell us a  
little more about that, it is an autobiography?

PC: Yeah but is a Death Metal book. History  
of the band with a lot of stories Thru this 24  
years of rawness, madness, travels,  
adventures, a lot of productions, testimony of  
my life and my dementia too. so we have  
more than 1000 stages and very funny  
sotuations. I always wrote my anger, hard  
times thru my lyrics during a quarter of  
century almost, and i lived the worst years of  
my life recently so is thearapeutical and a  
good way to throw all the negativity and shit  
through writting some lines and people can  
know more about Unblessed and me too.

EP: Are you planning to publish any other  
book(s) besides that one?

PC: I want to translate this one first and  
publish soon. Is not a plan for the moment but  
who knows. I m ready for 24 another years or  
more now. They are wellcome. So i can't deny  
this option in a future. Perhaps....

EP: Thank you very much Paul for taking your  
time to answer my questions, I appreciate  
you... Any closing comments?

PC: Thanx for the interview. A big hug for all  
the readers, I hope to see you and play for  
soon. Visit our official website  
[www.unblessed.cl](http://www.unblessed.cl)  
And buy some merch. It always supports  
bands. Regards.



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# REVIEWS

GENE OLIVARRI



**Band:** Immortal Suffering **Album:** Extreme Torture **Year:** 2023 **Label:** Seversed

Who is ready for **GUTSLITTER #4** tonight on the autopsy table we disembowel Immortal Suffering *Extreme Torture* release. What an awesome EP great groove torturing rhythmic, riffs and guttural heaviness throughout this EP; We here at Gutsliiter sunk our teeth deep into this opus of sick. The cover art is fantastic with extreme rotting torture slamming in your face.

**Band:** Brujeria **Album:** Esto es Brujeria **Year:** 2023 **Label:** Nuclear Blast

This album has lots of violent grindcore in it lots of tremolo, grinding on down tuned fat, sounding guitars, pure heavy. I was very impressed with the vocals done by new Brujeria singer **Jessica Pimentel**, many of you might know her for her role as **Maria Ruiz** on the Netflix show **Orange is the New Black** and also the lead singer in **Alekhines Gun**. She did a very good job with this legendary death-grind cartel. This is spectacular.



**Band:** Cavalera **Album:** Morbid Visions/Bestial Devastation **Year:** 2023 **Label:** Nuclear Blast

Here at Gutsliiter we love ripping the guts out of you and putting them back in and ripping them out again for our pleasure. These re-recorded albums ripped our guts completely out, the studio quality was amazing for both which is the difference from the original recordings of both albums. Vocals were more understood and clear sounding because well we've come a long way from 1986 in recording music. The atmosphere was different of course but in a good way **Calavera** really doctored up these albums they sound great.



**Band:** Rebaellium **Album:** Under The Sign Of Rebellion **Year:** 2023 **Label:** Agonia Records

What a great release this band has lots of old school **Morbid Angel** influence and worship. Evil sinister tones and sounds throughout this release and barbaric war drumming and palm muting mix well for this sinister havoc of a band. **Rebaellium** has persisted through the years proving that they indeed are a devastating force in the death metal scene of the world!!!



**Band:** Dying Fetus **Album:** Make Them Beg For Death **Year:** 2023 **Label:** Relapse

**Dying Fetus** has always been a great death metal band which is no surprise on this release they always give you what you need and want which is EXTREME!. The tracks are just so bulldozing and brutal and open up a new world of violence with the sound only **Dying Fetus** can give you. This album is very intense sounding it kept my ears stabbed with their piercing violent sound!

**Band:** Cryptopsy **Album:** As Gomorrah Burns **Year:** 2023 **Label:** Nuclear Blast

Speed Kills on this release, I love this type of tech death that just doesn't stop getting faster. **Cryptopsy** gives you slammed right in your face. The double bass is just nuts on this album the drumming just gives you ultra, ultra violence. The riffs are sick and this album is constantly sick and entertaining, great album the only way **Cryptopsy** knows how to do it... fast and brutal!



**Band:** Incantation **Album:** Unholy Deification **Year:** 2023 **Label:** Relapse

**Incantation** has been bone crushing for the past 30yrs this album is great quality and consistency like **Incantation** gives the guitar riffing is so good and amazing. The level of brutality the vocals give on this record is at a while different level **Incantation** is just getting better and better like a fine wine.

**Band:** Deteriorot **Album:** The Rebirth **Year:** 2023 **Label:** Faithless

Really liked the album took me back to those 90s **Century Media** bands sound the death metal bands they pushed out in those years. Great mid paced death in some parts they have this iconic death doom approach which I really liked as well. This album sound like it was ripped from the crypt





**Band: Evil Incarnate Album: Lucifer's Crown Year: 2023 Label: Tanatofobia**

I really loved the drumming and drum sound on this album it was so punchy and slight doom in it which was interesting to my ears. The songs on this album were very well paced and a lil more catchy. I can definitely hear the maturity on EI music, I've been a fan since their early demo days and I can hear the evolution music-wise. Dark as fuck like always with that eerie felling that Evil Incarnate only know how to deliver but this album has that special feeling of being well-elaborated, Great album!



**Band: Cannibal Corpse Album: Chais Horrific Year: 2023 Label: Metal Blade**

What a great difference of flavor between *Pat o' Brian* and *Erik Rutan* I really enjoy the music being put on this album *Erik Rutan* has brought such a different style and way to **Cannibal Corpse** with with relentless riffing monstrous sound and tones throughout the whole band, even the drums sound even more on point on this album than any other **Cannibal Corpse** album. I really enjoyed a lot of the brutal death groove that was going on with these tracks.

**Band: Grave Desecrator Album: Immundissime Year: 2023 Label: Tanatofobia**

What a perfect album, I truly enjoyed this. **Grave Desecrator** is like a bulldozer that just runs over you with brute force of perfection! With this album **Grave Desecrator** sound is so on point that bring chills down the spine... This is an exceptional album and this band is very talented! 10 epic tracks of pure obscurity and raging blasphemic desecration of all forms of christianity! This album is just a MUST!



**Band: Crypta Album: Shades of Sorrow Year: 2023 Label: Napalm**

This ladies pump out such great albums. **Crypta** really showcase the more on this album with high flying fast riffing and devastating vocal track's really round out this album from beginning to the end; with excellent powerful drumming. With this release **Crypta** showcase a lot maturity in their composition structures... All in all a very good album that it's not boring at all.

**Band: Obituary Album: Dying of Everything Year: 2023 Label: Relapse**

I loved this album **Obituary** has really surprised everyone in the metal world with this album. Everything is so tighten up sound with very sharp guitar tones so sharp it leaves you *Chopped in Half*. What I found interesting were the tempo changes throughout this release the speed was almost *autopsyish* at times and a bit thrash in small parts and sped up. It was a bit different than a usual obituary album where it is maybe mid-paced. I was highly impressed



**Band: Vomitory Album: All Heads Are Gonna Roll Year: 2023 Label: Metal Blade**

**Vomitory** knocked my head off with all the relentless head banging I did hearing this album. **Vomitory** came back and really showed everyone a lesson in death metal with this cd. Literally rip my face off this album is amazing so far this album is pure Seth art and a masterpiece. I warn you all their is no I mean no weak song on this album horns up for **Vomitory**

**Band: Frozen Soul Album: Glacial Domination Year: 2023 Label: Century Media**

This album is really good! The production has such classic death metal elements in it but they do it their own way. The riffs just make you bang your head until it falls off with this cd they were so thick and crunchy the guitars blast off throughout this album. The vocal are different like almost a whisper and a growl this band has a powerful rhythm section, what a great album!



**Band: Cattle Decapitation Album: Terrasite Year: 2023 Label: Metal Blade**

This I say is the best album of the year! The inspiration for this album where did it come from is my question. **Terrasite** is worth all the hype it gets honestly I felt like I was taken into a world that was completely obliterated and **Cattle Decapitation** was still feasting on the leftover bones. This is album is over the top brutal death and death grind with at times tech death. The riffs were pulverizing, and pure drums assault. The vocal approach was snarling and aggressive with such much bite to the patterns sung throughout this release it was awesome

it was truly a mix of dynamics all over the place with every member putting their ingredients on the table to make this brutal death masterpiece. Their was just so many hyper brutal moments it was purely insane. I really loved when they slowed down their music I was like wow I didn't expect this from this band I thought it was really amazing. Horns up to **Cattle Decapitation**.

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